



## Human Trafficking “Red Flags” for the General Public

If you come in contact with anyone exhibiting one or more of the following indicators, they may be a victim of human trafficking.

- A potential victim typically has someone with them at all times. This person seems very controlling and tries to speak for the victim.
- Victims may exhibit signs of physical abuse such as: bruises, broken bones, cuts, burns, scars and/or malnourishment.
- Victims may have signs of psychological trauma such as: severe anxiety, depression, suicidal thoughts, Stockholm's Syndrome, panic attacks, submissiveness, and/or no emotion at all (flat affect).
- Victims may work and live in the same location.
- Victims may believe that they must work for their employer because of a debt they owe.
- Victims typically do not have control over personal identification documents. These documents may be in the control of the trafficker.
- Victims may appear afraid/nervous and may not make eye contact.
- Conversations with victims may seem very scripted, inconsistent, or vague.
- Victims have signs of branding by their traffickers such as: tattoos of the trafficker's name and/or jewelry.
- Victims may have a lack of knowledge about where they are or why.
- Victims may not admit that they are victims and may not ask for help.

**Human trafficking situations are often very dangerous and unpredictable. If you suspect human trafficking in your community, contact the National Human Trafficking Hotline at 888-3737-888, send a text to BeFree (233733), or call 911. If a child may be in danger, call the Indiana Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline: 1-800-800-5556.**



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### Questions to ask yourself to determine if someone might be a victim:

- Are they being forced to do something they don't want to do?
- Is the person allowed to leave their place of work?
- Has the person been physically and/or sexually abused?
- Has the person been threatened?
- Does the person have a passport and other documents, or were they taken away from them?
- Has the person been paid for his/her work or services?
- How many hours does the person work a day?
- What are/were the person's living conditions?
- How did the person find out about the job?
- Who organized the person's migration?
- Do they have to ask permission to eat, sleep, or go to the bathroom?
- Do they believe they owe money for their travel or other expenses?
- Has anyone threatened their family?
- Where do they sleep and eat?
- Is there a lock on their door or windows so they cannot get out?

### Source:

OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL OF INDIANA, HUMAN TRAFFICKING POWERPOINT (2012), available at <http://www.in.gov/attorneygeneral/humantrafficking/>

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